

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COUNTING INTERRUPTS BY TYPE**

A method, apparatus, and computer instructions for counting interrupts by type. An interrupt count is incremented when a particular type of interrupt occurs. The count may be stored in the IDT or an interrupt count table outside the IDT. The interrupt unit increments the count each time a particular type of interrupt occurs. In the event of a potential count overflow, the mechanism of the present invention provides logic necessary to notify software in order to handle the overflow.